



21 October 2021

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents, Staff, Students and Friends of our Marymede Community,

It is wonderful to have our Preps and Years 1 and 2 students back on campus this week. The buildings have come alive once more and new energies have burst into life in all directions.

I am delighted that the State Government have pushed forward some other year levels returning to school.

Years 5 and 6 students are able to return tomorrow, Friday 22 October. They will learn remotely Monday 25 October to Wednesday 27 October before returning onsite on Thursday 28 and Friday 29 October.

Years 7 and 11 students will return on Friday 22 October and remain onsite full-time.

Year 10 students will return to school this Friday 22 October. They will learn remotely Monday 25 to Wednesday 27 October before returning onsite on Thursday 28 and Friday 29 October.

Year levels Prep, 1, 2, 3, 4, 8 and 9 will stay on the previously published schedule.

A full return for all of our students is expected early in November.

Senior Students

Our Unit 3/4 students were able to return on campus last Thursday 15 October to connect again with their peers and their teachers. The College had to wait until the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) gave us the clearance for this to happen after one of our Year 12 students tested COVID positive the previous week.

There is no doubt that this has been a challenging time for our senior students and their parents with the final exams now less than one week away. I again ask our Marymede Community to keep these students in our prayers over the next four weeks.

Farewell To Our Year 12 Students

We delayed the College's farewell to our Year 12 students until yesterday to allow all of the cohort the opportunity to be on campus. In the afternoon the students gathered online in their Tutor Groups to say their goodbyes to the staff and students. We then had an enjoyable outdoor lunch in Wurun Common with the Year 12 students appropriately distanced. The students appeared to enjoy the opportunity to mix with their peers and their teachers one last time on the school grounds.

The College is planning a final Year 12 Celebration with the students and hopefully parents at an outside venue after the exams. We are waiting on Government advice as to what we will be allowed for a gathering of up to 500 people.

Pop Up Vaccination Hub at Marymede

I am pleased to report that our College has been able to partner with Greenbrook Pharmacy to offer COVID -19 Vaccinations to our Marymede Community on Friday 22 October and Friday 19 November. Please see the article in the Deputy Principal Staff & Operations section for details.

Changing of the Guard

Our 2022 Student Leadership Team has recently been finalised after a lengthy interview process. I congratulate the students listed below on being appointed to a leadership position at the College in 2022.

College Captains

Imola Tavella and Declan Nhemachena

Faith and Mission Captains

Natalie Kirolos and Daniela Maiorana

House Captains

Chanel: Isabelle Spiteri and Liam Newport

Chisholm: Jacinta Kouts and Jennifer Roussos

MacKillop: Alessandra Silvestro and Saskia Truter

Marcellin: Taylah Scrimizzi and Jed Tyrrell

McAuley: Chiara Torzillo and Kyle Jury

McCormack: Chloe Gravina and Alexia Karabetsos

Romero: Isabella Chessler and Hugo Gu

Academic and Sporting Captains

Sports Captains: Ella Pinney and Jonathan Sevas

LOTE Captain: Nikhil Singh

Performing Arts Captain: Savannah Shamon

Visual Arts Captain: Jemma Pizzica

I take this opportunity to thank our outgoing student leaders for the way they have led the student body in the challenging times we have experienced this year.

Students Not Returning to Marymede in 2022

I ask parents to please let the College know as soon as possible if your son or daughter is not returning to Marymede next year. This information will help us in our planning for next year.

Melbourne Cup Long Weekend

Advance notice that the College will be closed on Monday 1 November as part of the Melbourne Cup Long weekend. Students will return to school on Wednesday 3 November.

Term 4

We are hoping that as restrictions are relaxed in the next few weeks that the College will be able to provide our students with more opportunities to be involved in the co-curricular activities. I encourage parents to regularly check the College Calendar to see what opportunities are on offer for your son or daughter.

Mr. Michael Kenny
Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL STAFF AND OPERATIONS PREP – YEAR 12

Pop-up vaccination clinic at Marymede: 22 October & 19 November

The main reason our state has been able to accelerate the 'roadmap' to a COVID-normal life is the vaccination rate across Victoria increasing significantly over the last month. Across the state we have now reached 90% first-vaccination rate and at Marymede, 100% of staff and over 90% of Year 12 students have now received at least one vaccination.

To assist families who have as yet been unable to book a vaccination, Marymede Catholic College is pleased to be partnering with a local medical provider to offer families the choice to receive a COVID vaccination. As indicated in previous College communications, the choice to be vaccinated is a family choice: this opportunity is purely voluntary and will require parental consent for all minors.

From **8.30am - 10.30am on Friday 22 October and 8.30am – 1.30pm on Friday 19 November**, a clinic will be set up in the Marymede Fitness Centre for trained nurses to deliver the **Moderna** vaccine (privacy screens will be in place).

Please see these attachments for information regarding the Moderna vaccine:

This opportunity will be open to all Marymede family members: students over 12 years of age (with parental consent), older siblings and parents. Families will be able to book an appointment together and there will be vaccination advice, opportunity to ask questions and screening prior to delivering any vaccination. Students may attend their vaccination without a parent/carer if at least one parent / carer fills in the following consent forms:

Bookings are made on a per-family basis. i.e. only one booking per family is required. Please use the following link (via PAM) to make your Moderna vaccination booking.

BOOKING YOUR VACCINATION via PAM: After logging in to PAM, select 'Parent Teacher Interviews', then click on one of your children. Next, select 'Online Vaccination Booking' (may be at base of screen below PSG). Finally, select Tutor Group and select your desired timeslot (only one time per family is required).

There are still available timeslots for both 19 October and 22 November.

Short videos to clearly answer many common questions about vaccines are available on the "Asked & answered" page on the Vax Facts website. Another reliable source is the Melbourne Vaccine Education Centre (MVEC):

<https://mvec.mcrci.edu.au/covid-19/>



Vaccine information sessions in Arabic & Somali

Vaccine information available in a variety of languages can be found at Translated information about COVID-19 | Coronavirus Victoria with some additional resources here: Coronavirus (healthtranslations.vic.gov.au)

Free online vaccine information sessions are also available in Somali on Thursday 28 October and in Arabic on Friday 29 October. For details, please see these flyers:

A safe return to onsite learning

It was a delight to welcome back Prep & Year 1-2 students this week. Thanks to the great response of Victorians in the uptake of vaccination, from Friday 22 October all year levels return at least part-time. The acceleration in vaccination rates also means that all students are likely to be back full-time from Wednesday 3 November.

Recent success in managing an infectious COVID case at the GAT (who tested positive the next day) highlights the importance of combined measures to keep students and staff safe at school:

1. Face Masks

2. Social distancing
3. Ventilation
4. Vaccination

Parents can support the health of our community through supporting the COVID-safe measures the school has in place, and by ensuring that if your child has any of the symptoms below, that they stay home and receive a COVID test:

- loss or change in sense of smell or taste
- fever
- chills or sweats
- cough
- sore throat
- shortness of breath
- runny nose

The results of the COVID test should be sent to nurse@marymede.vic.edu.au prior to your child returning to school.

Ongoing measures the school is taking to keep your children safe include:

- Wearing of face masks
 - All staff, all adults and all Secondary students are required to wear a face mask at all times.
 - Year 3 - 6 students are required to wear a face mask indoors at all times
 - Prep – Year 2 students are also strongly encouraged to wear a face mask when indoors.
 - Parents and carers conducting drop-off and pick-up are also required to wear a face mask at all times
- All parent & guardian access to the campus is restricted and all parent involvement with activities on-campus is cancelled for the foreseeable future.
- Parents and visitors may only enter a school building if they show proof of vaccination and QR code registration
- Extended and increased cleaning arrangements are already in place and will continue.
- No eating is permitted indoors
- Staff are encouraged to open windows whenever the weather suits and all air-conditioners are used on the 'fresh air' cycle only.
- Air purifiers have been installed into all primary and Year 7 classrooms, the exam centres, many secondary classrooms and any other spaces with limited ventilation.
- Teachers will be instructed to separate student desks wherever possible to enable social distancing.
- Hand sanitizer is available at the entrance to every building and posters advising students how to maintain good hygiene practices and effective hand washing are posted throughout the school and all bathrooms.

- All staff and contractors are required to have received at least one vaccination
- Staff and students are being kept in 'bubbles' as much as possible
- In addition to the normal cleaning activity, there is progressive cleaning throughout the day to ensure that risks of transmission are reduced for high-touch surfaces

We thank parents and carers for your continuing support and understanding of the measures taken to protect all community members.

Starting dates for 2022

The College calendar for 2022 currently has the start dates for students as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| • Monday 31 January: | Meet the teacher (Prep); Year 1-6 Testing |
| • Tuesday 1 February: | Year 7 & 12 (inc. Yr 11 Unit 3) first day
Meet the teacher (Prep); Year 1-6 Testing |
| • Wednesday 2 February: | Year 1 – 6 & Year 8 – 11 first day
Prep first day (half-day) |

Mr David Broadbent
Deputy Principal Staff & Operations P-12

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL LEARNING AND TEACHING PREP – YEAR 12

Welcome Back

We are excited to welcome back so many students this week to the College for face-to-face learning. I have been so impressed with the way our young people have adapted to this rapid and prolonged lockdown and their overall willingness to engage with set learning tasks in the online environment. Our students are to be congratulated for the learning success they have achieved and the resilience they have exhibited throughout this lockdown. Our teachers and support staff have done a great job in adapting units of work and modifying assessments to cater for our students and the heightened challenges and fatigue that comes from learning on the screen all day. And to parents and carers: you have played a vital role in keeping your child focused and supported whilst learning at home. We take this opportunity to thank all families for your continued support of the College and look forward to a positive end to the year.

2022 Class Construction

Forward planning for next year is well underway and we are currently considering student class allocation for 2022. When constructing classes there are number of factors considered including social and emotional requirements, standardised testing data and behavioural support. Our intention is always to create well-balanced, positive learning environments for all students. Should you need to make the College aware of any additional information that could assist us in our class

construction please contact the relevant Director of Students by Friday 29 October.

End of Year Examinations

There will be no Year 9 end of examinations this year due to the extended absence of face-to-face learning.

Our Year 10 students will be completing examinations for English, Religious Education, Mathematics (Standard & Advanced) and Science for VCE.

All students completing VCE / VET Unit 1&2 studies will complete an examination for each of their subjects. This reflects the increased importance placed on the examination in Unit 3 & 4 studies and our desire to ensure our students are as prepared as possible for their final year of schooling.

Examination revision guides will be distributed to parents and students next Friday 29 October and should be used to assist in the preparation for the upcoming examinations. Teachers will be working closely with students to provide structured, guided revision and continue to build their study strategies and revision techniques. The examination timetable will be available within the revision guide and students are only required to attend the College when they have an examination scheduled.

Mrs Jessica Hall

Deputy Principal Learning & Teaching P-12

STUDENT WELLBEING P-6

Supporting the Marymede Community re-emerge from Lockdown!

It is with great excitement that over the next two weeks our classrooms will fill with the sounds of engaged learners and the silent playground will once again carry the shouts and squeals of children playing. At Marymede we have a number of initiatives to support our students as they successfully reconnect with their peers.

Our Online START Up week will be followed up with an onsite START Up as students join their teachers and peers in person. Our Respectful Relationships Social and Emotional Learning Units will be revised to assist students identify and regulate their emotions, utilise their personal strengths, solve problems and most importantly seek help when needed.

We acknowledge the amazing support the parent community have provided our students during remote learning. The challenge ahead for us all is to encourage our students to re-emerge from lockdown with the new skills they have acquired and to further develop their confidence and resilience as they reconnect with their peers in a positive manner.

To support families, we have engaged a wonderful speaker to provide us all with some tips and advice to guide our students through this next phase. Georgina Manning is the Director of Wellbeing for Kids and a counsellor and psychotherapist. Georgina has many years of experience working in schools supporting children and parents to reach effective social and emotional outcomes. She will be presenting her very popular and informative parenting seminar to the Marymede Community.

5 Secrets to develop Confidence & Resilience Online Parent Seminar

A Microsoft Teams live webinar will be held for the Marymede Community on Thursday 27 October at 7pm. Georgina will be presenting on the following topics.

Parents learn:

- 5 Fundamentals of Resilience
- Practical strategies to boost confidence & resilience
- Effective parenting strategies that foster resilience
- Importance of free creative play to rest the brain
- Mindful listening techniques to tune into their child's feelings

Parent are supported to teach their child how to:

- Lessen anxiety
- Cope with life's ups and downs
- Develop independence and self-efficacy
- Problem-solve with confidence
- Become more resilient and confident

This is a very timely and engaging webinar that we encourage all families to attend. To join the online webinar, an invitation will be sent via Operoo and you will be able to register and participate in a Q & A session.

Monitoring your child's viewing on Streaming Platforms

As we move towards the end of another lockdown it is timely to remind ourselves that we still need to monitor what our children view on online streaming devices. These platforms are fantastic, as they provide many different programs for families to access. However, unlike traditional free-to-air TV, unless parental controls are in place children can easily access programs that are not age-appropriate. You may have read in the media about a popular show call Squid Game which sounds like a children's show, but it is a highly violent Adults Only program.

Unfortunately, we are aware that Primary students have accessed and watched these violent shows and they can then re-enact them on the playground. It can be difficult keeping across all of the latest trends so Common Sense Media is a fantastic website for parents to find up to date information about all kinds of media that your children may be viewing.



They also provide research about areas of concern such as how watching violent material can desensitise children to violence and can lead to aggressive behaviour. For more tips about how violence in media effects children see the link below.

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/tv-reviews/squid-game>

Lisa Murray

Student Wellbeing P-6

SECONDARY SPORT

2021 Sport Awards

The following students have been selected as worthy recipients of Sporting Awards. These students were nominated by their respective coaches based on their performances and attitude throughout the season.

Swimming:

Alexis Madin
Damian Trenevski

AFL:

Dallin Stewart
Ella Pinney
Christian Mardini (Goal Kicking Record)

Tennis:

Francesco Zaccari
Isabella Chessler

Soccer:

Tobenna Obani

Cross Country:

Taylah Scrimizzi
Campbell Brooks

Netball:

Diandra Mponda

Cricket:

Kavit Shah (Bowling Award)
Joshua Passas (Batting Award)

Volleyball:

Jarnai Brancaloneo
Dallin Stewart

In an ideal world, these awards would have been presented at an Awards Ceremony at the end of the year. They will be presented to students in their Tutor Groups when we return to school. The Year 12 students are asked to contact Mr Gerard Large to arrange a time to collect their awards.

Gerard Large
Head of Secondary Sport

PERFORMING ARTS

Instrumental Music Semester 1 2022 – Re-enrolment for current students

Students currently enrolled in the Instrumental Music program are asked to please confirm or decline their re-enrolment for Semester 1 2022 (Terms 1 & 2) via the Operoo online enrolment form by **Friday 5 November**. Parents/Guardians are asked to please check their email for the link to the 2022 *Instrumental Music Lessons -Semester 1 Enrolment form*. Current students **not** confirmed by **5 November 5** will, unfortunately, forfeit their

place in the program for next year. Enrolments for new students will be announced after this date.

BUS SERVICE

The College bus service will resume this Friday, 22nd October 2021.

UNIFORM SHOP

Bob Stewart at Uni Hill is excited to re-open the store and welcome back all our families. As per Government guidelines, at this stage it is scheduled for Monday 8th November at 9.00am.

Bob Stewart Uni Hill will offer new families purchasing full uniform the opportunity to get in early and avoid the queues.

Uniform appointments will commence from Monday 8th November and run until Saturday 18th December.

We really want to encourage families to book appointments, the first two weeks are now live on the website and families can access the booking system.

<https://bookings.bobstewart.com.au/uni-hill-store/>

Web orders are also available for postage and click and collect:

<https://www.bobstewart.com.au/>

Families can visit without an appointment during the store's trading hours of operation:

Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm

Saturday 9.30am - 12.30pm



Come and Try Baseball
Wednesday 27 October 5:30pm-7pm
Glenauburn Park, Lower Plenty
For more information and to
register your interest please visit
juniorbaseball.com.au

